

**Thursday Summer Worship Services 6:47pm
Gather in the Sanctuary**

Week 1	June 28	Week 6	August 2
Week 2	July 5	Week 7	August 9
Week 3	July 12	Week 8	August 16
Week 4	July 19	Week 9	August 23
Week 5	July 26	Week 10	August 30

40-45 Minutes - Meditative, Devotional

Upcoming Events

Summer Food Drive	June 10-July 29	Ongoing
Vacation BibleSchool	June 18-22	9:00am-12:00nn
Super Sunday	June 24	8:30am-12:00nn
Voter's Meeting	July 1	11:00am
Walk with PoP	July 14, Aug 11	8:00am
PoP Family Campout	Aug 16-19	Starts 4:00pm
Ministry of the Month	June 17, July 15, August 19	

Mission Statement

To Know Him and to Make Him Known

Vision Statement

Prince of Peace is a vibrant cross + generational Christian family. Lifelong Christian education defines and drives our ministry - we learn, love and teach about life with Jesus. The more we learn, the better we love each other, making our community of faith grow stronger. This bond empowers us to boldly serve our neighbors in ways that show them Jesus, and bring them to faith in Him.

PARISH PRINTS

Quarter 2 - Summer 2012

JOURNAL

June - July - August

Growth in the Spirit

Flowers are interesting "creatures". They don't seem at all concerned with their circumstances. As seeds, they simply land where they will, and with no regard for the particular merits of the surface on which they find themselves they do what they were created to do: sprout, grow and bloom.

I've seen flowers in some of the most unexpected places - from cracks in the sidewalk to rusted containers to barren patches of dirt. You'd think they would complain, "how am I supposed to grow here? It's too hot, the sun will wilt anything I put out, so why bother!" or "how did I end up in this crevice? It would be so much easier if I had some actual soil to work with!"

But they don't. Whether in the richest part of the darkest garden soil, or in the most desolate and inhospitable of surroundings, they are faithful to live out their design. Wherever they find themselves, whatever their situation, they just go about the work they were created to do: sprout, grow and bloom. And because they do, we get to enjoy their sweetness.

God created an unbelievable variety of flowers in the world, and He put them all over the place so that we could watch them and ponder...I wonder if He's trying to tell us something?



"Bloom Where You Are Planted" Pastor Dan

Our theme for this issue of the Parish Prints Journal is "Growth in the Spirit." Wherever we look, especially at this time of the year, there are huge amounts of green spreading through trees, shrubs and flowers. In the church the liturgical color green is the predominant color of the Pentecost season (which spans Pentecost Sunday, May 27th through November 25th). The lessons we hear in worship and take home with us in our Vibrant Faith devotional inserts lead us through processes of spiritual growth.

Several years ago I heard a pastor use the phrase, "bloom where you are planted." It kind of caught my ear and stayed with me. For a time it even became a "buzz phrase" that everyone seemed to

use. I'm not sure where it came from; the exact words are not in Scripture, but the message is conveyed in several passages - in the Psalms and Jeremiah we read - "be like a tree planted by the rivers of water".



God sends us the Spirit to bring growth to our lives. We are privileged to be receivers of His abundance wherever we are.

For the Journey

Sometimes we see growth taking place when we least expect it; just a few weeks ago I took of picture of our marionberry vines and there was but one white flower; today I can barely see the greenery for all the white flowers that will soon be replaced by all the berries - it looks like another prolific year! I had nothing to do with it. It reminds me of Jesus' words from the sermon on the Mount, "the lilies neither labor nor spin ... yet not even Solomon ... was dressed in such splendor ..." (Matthew 5:28ff).

Through the waters of baptism, the elements of the Lord's Supper, God's precious Word, and our family of faith, God's Spirit comes to us and brings growth. May we respond and "Bloom where we are planted."

Prince of Peace
LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL



Address Label

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14175 NW Cornell Road
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Relationships

Think about how fellowship is often a carelessly employed word, used to describe a social evening or a casual encounter. But fellowship implies that those who share it are fellows in some common



cause or interest. Anything that threatens the faith of a single one of us threatens the entire fellowship. Therefore, the New Testament letters are full of instructions for fellowship—about caring for one another, getting along together, and bearing one another's burdens. Because we live in a time when individ-

uality and self-reliance are stressed, Christians need to be reminded of the value of belonging to the body of Christ. Our fellowship is a gift from God. We need it; we should enjoy it.

What on earth does this have to do with fellowship events we do at Prince of Peace like this summer's first ever Family Camp? The great thing about camping together is that it is much more than a social evening or casual encounter. To be sure we will have social evenings and casual encounters. There will be games, devotions, and singing songs around a campfire. But my prayer is that our camping will bring we brothers and sisters in Christ, together in our common cause; our belonging in Christ's family. Being a family implies spending time together and getting to know each other's joys and share each other's burdens.

"The Value of Fellowship" Jill Frerichs

Sure we might be more comfortable snug in our own beds at home, but that campfire would look



awful silly crackling away in our living rooms. And the s'mores and the campfire songs just won't be the same without the campfire! Come, join the rest of your family on August 16-19 and enjoy some great Christian Fellowship on God's beautiful Oregon Coast at one of the best times of the year!

"Thoughts on Summer Service" Jeff Oltmann

Sometimes I hesitate to serve. Serving others can be kind of intimidating, so I'm good at allowing my circumstances or misgivings to provide reasons to avoid it.



- † Sit and talk with my elderly neighbor who is depressed and in poor health? I'd really like to, but work and travel already demand so much of my time.
- † Find ways to house and feed people in Cedar Mill who have lost jobs, homes, and hope? My little efforts could never make a dent in such a big problem. Besides, I'd have to talk with people who aren't like me, and that's really outside my comfort zone.
- † Lead a project at church? Request something else from me, please. I can follow or contribute, but being the person in charge is more responsibility than I really want to take on right now.

But I know that there is something more God is asking for. Jesus didn't wait until everything on his to-do list was checked off before he reached out to serve. As a fol-

lower of Jesus, I signed up for the same priorities - actively serving the people around me even when it is difficult or the last thing I feel I can or want to do. Jesus made it clear that serving means sacrifice. It also means growth.

So when I reluctantly agree to dive into the service I am called to do, a surprising thing happens. The Spirit gives me unexpected strength and some of the right words to say. Fellow Christians at Prince of Peace join me in the journey, share the work load, bring great new ideas, and contribute their enthusiasm. By God's grace, we have some successes! What started out as something to avoid instead becomes exciting, fulfilling, and valuable service.

Let's get specific. Here is how I will serve right now. I will help hungry people in Cedar Mill this summer by joining the organizing team for PoP's summer food drive. We will fill the bare shelves of our food pantry to overflowing. I will also accept an expanded role on the PoP council. What adventure is God inviting you into today? How will you serve for Him this summer?



Youth

They look like they have it all together, but they would be the first ones to admit that they don't. They sometimes act like they have all the answers, but the truth is, they actually want to know more about you and the experiences you have had in life - experiences they are just now beginning to encounter and need some expert advice to help them navigate.



There is an old African Proverb that states, "It takes a Village to raise a child". You could expand that idea by changing it to say, "It takes a Community to help our Youth grow and develop into who God made them to be". Most young people are keenly aware of what they don't know, and while they have new resources like Wikipedia and Facebook, that many older folks never had growing up, to help them find answers, they still recognize the value of experience, and they understand the wisdom that is gained from living through difficult or challenging situations.



"We Need to Talk" Jeff Kranich

They want to know what you know - the trouble is, you don't text, so they're not sure how to ask. Just like us, they figure it's easier to guess at the right answers with their friends than to try and start a conversation with someone older who might think less of them for not already knowing the answers to the questions they have.

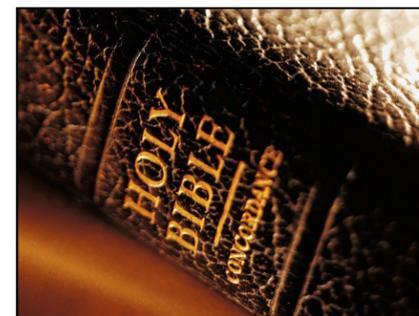
We all fear rejection or ridicule, and we all want to be loved and accepted for who we are regardless of what we know or don't know. One of the greatest gifts you can give to a Teen is to take the risk to start a conversation and find out what their life is like. As you develop a trusting relationship you open the door to those deeper conversations they want to have with you about things that really matter, like Faith, Love, Courage, Resilience, Integrity, and Self-Esteem.



Take a chance - talk to a Teen and let them know how much you care. I guarantee that not only will you help that Teen grow, but you will find yourself enriched and strengthened by the conversation as well!

"Reflections on Adult Bible Study" Andy Westlund

I first began teaching adult bible classes at Prince of Peace nearly twenty years ago. This was an unexpected path along my spiritual journey; I never before thought I had the aptitude or desire to lead other adults in the study of God's Word.



For the past four years I have had the privilege of directing our Adult Education program. My primary objective has been to offer one—and only one—**biblically based**

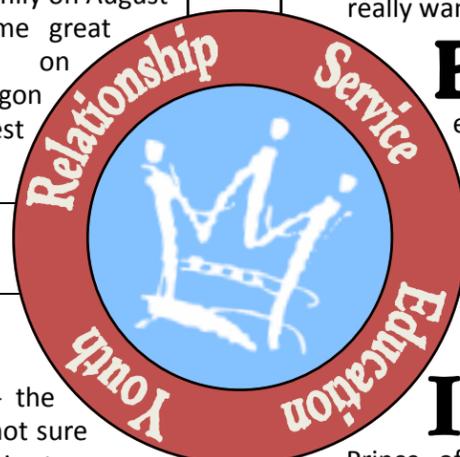
and **culturally relevant** adult bible class each Sunday. I wanted our members and guests to have a simple and consistent choice about where to go on Sunday mornings at 9:15, and I wanted our class leaders to be rewarded for their preparation with full classes. The approach has paid off: We have averaged over 16 attendees per class session during this time frame.

This summer Valorie and I are relocating to West Linn, bringing a more long-distance relationship to our fellowship with Prince of Peace. Although we will be attending another church on a regular basis, our hearts will always be with the congregation that baptized and confirmed our two sons.

Our personal transition comes at a time when Prince of Peace is in need of more member-leaders for



adult bible classes. I hope my own positive experience with Christian Education at Prince of Peace will inspire you to prayerfully consider the opportunity to become more involved. I can absolutely attest that leading other Christians in the study of God's Word is the best way to deepen your own understanding. "Sunday School" is an educational process that should last for a lifetime. Whether as a student or a teacher, I really encourage you to stay in school!



Service

Education